IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application Of:) Confirmation No. 5663
Samuel M. SHAOLIAN et al.) Group Art Unit: 3733
Application Number: 10/606,409) Examiner REIMERS, A.
Filed: June 25, 2003)
For: TRANSPEDICULAR INTERVERTEBRAL DISK ACCESS METHODS AND DEVICES)))

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

In response to the Office Action mailed October 26, 2006 (the "Office Action"), Applicants hereby offer the following response. A brief index of the present communication follows.

- Listing of the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.
- Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.